

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01

COME-00 XMB-02 /077 W

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R 190220Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9797

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEAN

SUBJECT: ASEAN-U.S. CONSULTATIONS

REFS: A) STATE 194749 AND PREVIOUS

B) JAKARTA 9746

1. SUMMARY: SOUNDINGS PAST WEEK INDICATED THAT INDONESIANS ARE NOW PREPARED SUPPORT ASEAN INITIATIVE TOWARD CONSULTATIONS WITH USG. END SUMMARY.

2. IN THE COURSE OF INDONESIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY CEREMONIES 17 AUGUST, I APPROACHED TRADE MINISTER RADIOUS PRAWIRO AND MENTIONED TO HIM INDICATIONS WE HAD RECEIVED FROM OTHER CAPITALS THAT ASEAN COUNTRIES, NOT EXCEPTING INDONESIA, WOULD WELCOME RENEWAL OUR EXPRESSION OF WILLINGNESS TO CONSULT ON MATTERS FOR MUTUAL CONCERN. I OBTAINED HIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ASSURANCE THAT INDONESIA, LIKE PARTNERS, SEES VALUE IN

CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN ASEAN AND U.S.

3. THIS REINFORCES SIGNAL OBTAINED IN CONVERSATION WITH DEPLU'S ASEAN STAFF CHIEF UMARJADI ON OCCASION OF CODEL WOLFF VISIT, WHICH WAS FIRST UNEQUIVOCALLY FAVORABLE SIGN SINCE OPEC EXCLUSION FEATURE OF OUR GSP BECAME AN ISSUE IN INDONESIA. IN RESPONSE CONGRESSMAN SIMON'S EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN ASEAN, UMARJADI SPONTANEOUSLY COMMENTED ON POTENTIAL BENEFIT OF SUCH CONSULTATIONS, ADDING THAT PROBLEM ARISING FROM OPEC EXCLUSION COULD BE DISCUSSED ELSEWHERE.

4. NEITHER MINISTER RADIUS NOR UMARJADI INDICATED WHAT CONTENT HE THOUGHT THE TALKS MIGHT HAVE, BUT UMARJADI ADVANCED THE IDEA -- WITH WHICH USG MAY AGREE -- THAT IT WOULD BE WELL TO PREARRANGE SUBSTANTIVE AREA OF DISCUSSIONS AS WELL AS USG ACCEPTANCE OF ASEAN INVITATION. INDONESIANS, AT LEAST, WOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO USG SUGGESTIONS AS TO "AGENDA" AND IN FACT RADIUS ASKED ME WHAT WE HAVE IN MIND REGARDING AGENDA, TIMING AND LEVEL.

5. ON BASIS THIS EVIDENCE, EMBASSY NO LONGER SEES NEED FOR PARTICULAR CAUTION ABOUT INDONESIAN SENSITIVITIES IN REAFFIRMING OUR WILLINGNESS TO CONSULT WITH ASEAN COLLECTIVELY ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN. PRESUME MY REPLY TO RADIUS SHOULD BE THAT WE HAVE INDICATED AN INTEREST TO ASEAN COUNTRIES BUT ARE NOW AWAITING GROUP'S SPECIFIC PROPOSALS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: INSTRUCTION ON WHAT I SHOULD REPLY TO RADIUS PRAWIRO AND ON HOW DEPARTMENT INTENDS FOLLOW UP WITH ALL ASEAN COUNTRIES. ASSUME WE SHOULD SAY THE SAME THING TO ALL SIMULTANEOUSLY.
NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975JAKART10102
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750285-1009
From: JAKARTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750841/aaaabjew.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 194749
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ASEAN-U.S. CONSULTATIONS
TAGS: OCON, EGEN, PFOR, US, MY, ID, ASEAN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006